



**Tom Horne**  
Superintendent  
of Public Instruction

Arizona Department of Education



Providing the latest dish on Child Nutrition News and information

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## From the Program Directors Desk

Welcome back to another important year in School Health and Nutrition. As we wrap up another successful season of summer feeding we look forward to the coming school year and the many positive changes brought about by Reauthorization and new leadership.

Mary Szafranski, former Program Director of Food Distribution, has been appointed the new Director of Health and Nutrition Services. Ann Hart, the previous Director, has accepted an exciting new position as the Arizona Department of Education, Director of the Superintendents Discipline Initiative.

Mary brings with her eleven years of state agency experience and a strong commitment to customer service. She is keenly aware of the vital connection between the Arizona Department of Education and other organizations working towards improving the health and nutritional environment of Arizona Schools. Mary plans to work in a collaborative partnership with these organizations to make these visions a reality.

Arizona is already a step closer towards making health and nutrition a priority in schools. The Healthy School Environment Model Policy developed by the Arizona Action for Health Kids team is in full swing at eight selected pilot schools this year. Arizona is leading the pack in addressing students' nutritional health and well-being and is right on track to providing a healthy nutritional environment for all students.

We look forward to working hand in hand with our many sponsors this coming year as they make the move towards a healthy school environment. Please take advantage of the various training opportunities provided by the Arizona Department of Education. You may register on line for all ADE Classes at: [www.ade.az.gov/onlineregistration](http://www.ade.az.gov/onlineregistration).

Good luck to each of you as you embark upon another academic year and please join the entire Health and Nutrition Services Unit in welcoming our new State Director, Mary Szafranski!

Sincerely,

**Holly Mohr**  
Program Director, School Health and Nutrition



## Another Successful Summer Food Service Season!

As the summer rays beat down, many of you continued working to ensure that children received healthy nutrition while school was out. Ice-cold milk, refreshing sandwiches, and fresh fruit and vegetables were just a few of the scrumptious summer food offered to the hungry youngsters. Total state Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) site participation increased from 683 sites in 2003 to 724 sites in 2004. This equates to a 6% increase in SFSP site participation. As summer winds to a close and you are gearing up for a new school year, the Arizona Department of Education would like to congratulate you for a successful Summer Food season. Your hard work and dedication is appreciated among the Arizona Department of Education School Health and Nutrition staff and, most of all, among the many families that benefited from the SFSP.



# Important Direct Certification Update

There are now three new additional Direct Certification Enhancements available for your use.

- **Upload File - SAIS ID Search**  
SAID ID Search allows school districts to upload SAIS ID numbers only. The system does not check for SAIS enrollment within your district when utilizing this option.
- **DES Decision Date**  
The Upload File and State Match options will report a DES Decision Date that will provide a means to filter or sort match results to exclude 'old' information from previous uploads. DES Decision Date is the date DES determines the student to be eligible for DES benefits. **The DES Decision Date may not be used as the first day of eligibility unless it falls on the same day as the SFA approval date.** Instructions on sorting begin on page 35 in the CNP Direct Certification Manual.
- **Pending Result**  
Results that report "pending" are still in process, therefore the student is **not eligible** to receive free meals through Direct Certification until a "match" result is reported.

For more details on these enhancements, please refer to the CNP Direct Certification Manual.

CNP Direct Certification Computer Based Trainings are now available.

Please view the training schedule online at:

[www.ade.az.gov/health-safety/cnp/nslp/computertraining.asp](http://www.ade.az.gov/health-safety/cnp/nslp/computertraining.asp)

## Recognizing Excellent Efforts in School Health & Nutrition Programs

Arizona schools take pride in meeting federal and state regulations and most importantly in making sure their students are provided with a nutritious meal. As a result of the food service staff's hard work, we will be awarding exceptional schools for their dedication in continuing excellence in the School Health and Nutrition Programs. The two awards that will be presented are, "Outstanding Administrative Review Award" and the "Outstanding School Meals Initiative Award". Through these awards we are expressing our gratitude and appreciation to the food service staff that go above and beyond making a difference in the School Health and Nutrition Programs. The two award winners will be presented plaques at the Arizona School Food Service Association Conference in November.

Nominees for Initial Reviews conducted in the 2003-2004 School Year include:

### Outstanding Administrative Review

Bisbee Unified District  
Casa De Los Ninos  
Challenge Charter School  
Littlefield Unified District  
Naco Elementary District  
Sahuarita Unified District  
St Johns Unified District  
Sunnyside Unified District

### Outstanding School Meal Initiative

Parker Unified District  
Rough Rock Community School  
Santa Cruz Valley Unified District  
St. Johns Unified District

# KidsCare and The Multi-Use Application

Currently, in the State of Arizona, one in every five school age children lacks health insurance. Sadly, this has an effect on over 253,000 students. It has been shown that a substantial number of these children come from low-income families who are either eligible for, or participate in, the National School Lunch Program (NSLP). The fact that so many of these children are connected with NSLP is the reason that Governor Janet Napolitano, Superintendent Tom Horne, and KidsCare have collaborated in an attempt to provide KidsCare information specifically to these ideal candidates. Additionally, there is strong evidence that shows children with adequate health coverage are more likely and to attend school regularly, which equates to higher attendance and an overall increase in your meal participation.

The NSLP's multi-use application for free and reduced-price meals was chosen as the best means to disseminate information to Arizona families due to its current wide spread use among Arizona schools. Also it is believed that incorporating KidsCare into an existing application would make this program simple and inexpensive for sponsors to implement. Fortunately, the theories seem to be correct with schools already reporting minimal labor increases and only small copying expenses when implementing the KidsCare program.

The Food Service Directors are the key component in the success of this program and that is why it is important for there to be full participation in utilizing the new multi-use application with KidsCare. The new application will come with the following updated procedures:

- ⇒ Download and complete the **AGREEMENT BETWEEN SCHOOL FOOD AUTHORITY AND AHCCCS REGARDING IDENTIFICATION OF CHILDREN** online at: [www.ade.az.gov/health-safety/cnp/nslp/parentforms/2004-2005](http://www.ade.az.gov/health-safety/cnp/nslp/parentforms/2004-2005).
- ⇒ The Determining Official of the School Food Authority **MUST** sign the agreement and the agreement must be kept on file with the SFA.
- ⇒ Examine all returned applications to determine if the KidsCare field of the application has been completed.
- ⇒ Make copies of all applications that have both questions in the KidsCare field check marked **YES**, and the signature of an adult household member.
- ⇒ Mail all application copies to: KidsCare Mail Drop 500920 E. Madison, Phoenix, AZ 85034

## Calendar of Events

Date	Health & Nutrition Services Trainings	Location	Time
8/26/04	Preparing for your NSLP Administrative Review	Tucson	9:00 - 12:00
9/7/04	Special Assistance	Tucson	1:00 - 4:30
9/8/04	Business Basics	Tucson	8:30 - 5:00
9/9/04	Food Distribution	Tucson	8:30 - 12:00
9/9/04	Nutrition Basics	Tucson	8:30 - 4:30
9/15/04	Business Basics	Yuma	8:30 - 5:00
9/16/04	Food Distribution	Yuma	8:30 - 12:00
9/16/04	Nutrition Basics	Yuma	8:30 - 4:30
9/17/04	NuMenu Training	Yuma	8:30 - 12:30
9/20/04	Special Assistance	Phoenix	1:00 - 4:30
9/21/04	Business Basics	Phoenix	8:30 - 5:00
9/22/04	Food Distribution	Phoenix	8:30 - 12:00
9/22/04	Nutrition Basics	Phoenix	8:30 - 4:30
9/28/04	Ethics	Phoenix	9:00 - 3:00
10/3/04	SUCCESS	Phoenix	8:30 - 12:30
10/7/04	Contracting with Food Service Management Companies	Phoenix	1:00-4:30
10/12-13/04	Serving it Safe (Class Fee required)	Phoenix	9:00 - 3:00
10/18/04	Preparing for your NSLP Administrative Review	Phoenix	9:00 - 12:00
10/21/04	Contracting with Food Service Management Companies	Flagstaff	1:00 - 4:30
11/2/04	Business Basics	Phoenix	8:30 - 5:00
11/3/04	Food Distribution	Phoenix	8:30 - 12:00
11/3/04	Nutrition Basics	Phoenix	8:30 - 4:30
11/3/04	Contracting with Food Service Management Companies	Tucson	1:00 - 4:30

Register on line for all ADE Classes at: <http://www.ade.az.gov/onlineregistration>

**Extra!  
Extra!**  
Read All  
About It!

### School Districts to Adopt Wellness Policy

Reauthorization of Child Nutrition for 2004-2009 was signed by Congress on June 30, 2004. One of the new requirements of reauthorization involves the implementation of a local wellness policy in every school by **July 2006**.

This is good news for all Arizona students! Many school districts across the United States have already begun developing their own wellness policies addressing goals for nutrition education and physical activity, guidelines for food sold on campus, and a plan for effectiveness. Arizona is one of those states. In conjunction with Action for Healthy Kids Arizona State Team, the Arizona Department of Education developed a **Healthy School Environment Model Policy**.

A pilot test for the model policy will begin this fall. Stay tuned for training from the Arizona Department of Education on how to implement the model policy in your school.

Visit the link below at the Arizona Department of Education's web site to view the final draft.

Arizona Healthy School Environment Model Policy: <http://www.ade.az.gov/health-safety/cnp/teamnutrition/Default.asp>



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# Check Out the School Health Index

Have you ever wondered how your school rates on nutrition, physical activity, tobacco-free living, and safety? Let the School Health Index, by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), be your guide to navigating the world of assessing where your school stands on these important topics.

The new 2004 School Health Index (SHI) for Elementary Schools and Middle/High Schools is a self-assessment and planning tool to improve the effectiveness of your health and safety programs and policies. Get parents, students, key faculty, and other community stakeholders involved to join in the fun and be a part of the SHI Team. This toolkit is easy to use and guides your team through preparation, assessment, and taking action.

The Arizona Department of Education will soon be offering trainings on how to implement the School Health Index.

Do not miss out on the opportunity to *check in* on the *check up* of your school's nutrition, physical activity, tobacco-free lifestyle, and safety status by *checking out* the School Health Index. You can order a free printed copy or download/print each module online. Go to <http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth> to view the newest edition of the School Health Index today.

*Congratulations*  
to Karen Johnson,  
Child Nutrition  
Director, Yuma  
Elementary  
District on her  
installation as the  
National President of the School  
Nutrition Association.



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